

Fordham Parish Council
Minutes of Parish Council meeting
Held at Village Hall, Fordham, Colchester, Essex
7.30 pm on 30th July 2019

Present: Cllr N Durlacher (ND) – Deputy Chair
Cllrs S Pallent (SP), C Alexander (CA), R Gregory (RG), G Branagh (GB)

Also in attendance: Mrs K Cameron (KC) – Clerk
And 9 members of the public

19-20/45 Those present and apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr N Head-Jenner (NHJ) and Cllr N Chapman Colchester Borough Councillor

Resolved. That absences from N Head-Jenner (NHJ) and Cllr N Chapman be recorded and accepted

19-20/46 To receive any declarations of interest from councillors

Resolved. That the following declarations of interest be received from Councillors:

Cllrs C Alexander and R Gregory declared a non-pecuniary interest for item 19-20/51 as they are members of the Fordham Allotments Association

Cllr N Durlacher declared a non-pecuniary interest for item 19-20/51 as he is a member of Fordham Church Council

19-20/47 Minutes of the meeting held on 25th June, 2019

Resolved. That the minutes of Full Council Meeting were accepted as a true record and signed

19-20/48 Public question time

The meeting may be temporarily suspended for up to fifteen minutes if members of the public wish to comment on agenda items or items of interest or concern to the parish

A resident made a request to the Council to assist with contacting the relevant parties who deal the clearing of paths in the Woodland Trust. The paths are not wheelchair accessible and have not been cleared for sometime. The Deputy Chairman agreed that the Clerk will write to the Woodland Trust and send the photographs from the resident.

Resolved. That the Clerk will write to the Woodland Trust.

19-20/49 Receive report from County and Borough Councillors if in attendance

There was nothing to report

19-20/50 New policies

- Data protection policy
- Website Policy
- Email policy

Members discussed the policies listed above and agreed to the content. Members also signed the agreement relating to the Email Policy. The Clerk noted that once all email addresses were set up, information would be circulated to all Councillors.

Resolved. That the above policies be adopted and published.

19-20/51 Grant Applications from Local Organisations

Cllrs C Alexander and R Gregory declared a non-pecuniary interest for item 19-20/51 as they are members of the Fordham Allotments Association

Cllr N Durlacher declared a non-pecuniary interest for item 19-20/51 as he is a member of Fordham Church Council

Grant application for Fordham Allotments Association was discussed and it was agreed that the Council will award a £500 grant.

Due to a conflicting interest of the Deputy Chairman, Councillor George Branagh led the session for Fordham Church application. Grant application for Fordham Church was discussed and it was that the Council will award a £500 grant for the grass cutting.

Resolved. That the Parish Council agreed to grant £500 to both Fordham Allotment Association and Fordham Church.

19-20/52 Annual Playground Inspection

CLlr R Gregory noted that Fordham Parish Council received a very good report from the Annual Play inspection. There were a few items that were either for monitoring purposes or highlighting minor items. Cllrs Head-Jenner and Gregory have spent some time working on the minor items. The bigger items include cleaning the concrete surfaces, replacing a slat on a bench and filling in a potential trip hazard by the front gate will be completed in the next week of two. The Deputy Chair recorded his thanks to Cllrs Head-Jenner and Gregory for their hard work.

Resolved. That the inspection be received and recommendations agreed.

19-20/53 Bus to Colchester

CLlr C Alexander has been contacted by residents with concerns about the new cited bus stop in Colchester for Fordham buses. The concerns are outlined below:

- The new bus collection point is near the gala bingo hall on 10-20 mins walk from central town
- There is not good accessibility to the stop
- There are only 4 seats at the stop for passengers
- Most of the passengers that travel to Colchester from Fordham are elderly and have accessibility difficulties

The Council agreed that they will write to the bus company to understand the rationale of moving the bus stop from the easily accessible point at Wilkinson’s to the isolated station at the Gala Bingo

Resolved. That the council will write to the bus company for further information.

19-20/54 To receive Finance reports as of 30th July, 2019

Resolved. That the reports received as of 30th July be approved

19-20/55 Expenditure

55.1 Baby swing seats

Resolved. That the cost to replace two new baby swing seats is £322 plus vat

55.2 Wooden posts to Village Green

Resolved. That the Council be advised of emergency works to two posts, that will take place on the Village Green, will cost £150 plus VAT

55.3 Invoice for Payment – Appendix A

Invoice no	Payable	Purpose	Amount
40534760	ID mobile	Mobile Phone	£12.77 *£2.13 VAT
24558	J&M Payroll Services	Payroll Fees <i>June Fees</i>	£30.00 *£5 VAT
FPC04.07.2019	Fordham Village Hall Mgmt. Committee	Village Hall hire <i>April-June 2019</i>	63.00
02072019	Local History Society	Grant	£500.00
Invoice no	Payable	Purpose	Amount
---	Fordham in Bloom	Grant	£500.00

---	RCCE	Membership Fee	£72.60 *£12.10 VAT
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Resolved. That invoices listed in appendix A – total expenditure: £1,178.37 be approved

55.4 Invoice for Payment – Appendix B

Invoice no	Payable	Purpose	Amount
July 2019	J&M Payroll Services	July Payroll <i>Including NI/HMRC/Pension</i>	£467.36
1	Chris Cousins	Playgrounds checks <i>June Fees</i>	£68.00

Resolved. That invoices listed in appendix B that were submitted after 23rd July 2019 – total expenditure £535.36 be approved

A total expenditure of **£1,713.73** expenditure be approved for July 2019

19-20/56 Planning Applications

56.1 To discuss and agree comments to be submitted to Colchester Borough Council for applications:

191334 15 Church Road, Fordham Colchester CO6 3NA Construction of one new 3 bedroom chalet bungalow

Resolved. That the Council has no objections to application no 191334

191737 5 Partridge Drive, Fordham Colchester CO6 3NH Proposed new side residential extension

Resolved. That the Council has no objections to application no 191737

191869 Fletchers Farm Riding School, Fletchers Farm, Rams Farm Road, Fordham Colchester CO6 3NT Detached double garage and garden store to serve new dwelling currently under construction (ref: 182950)

Resolved. That the Council has no objections to application no 191869

56.2 To discuss any applications received between 24th – 30th July 2019

191855 26 Partridge Drive, Fordham Colchester CO6 3NH Application to remove condition 2 of planning permission F/COL/00/1962

Resolved. That the Council has no objections to application no 191855

56.3 To note the decision for the following application:

191006 Essex Governor Services Ltd Wormingford Road, Fordham, Colchester CO6 3NS Proposed Warehouse Extension Approve conditional

Resolved. That the Council notes the planning decision

19-20/57 To receive Health and Safety Checks for playground

- To note reports for w/c 4th to 25th June 2019 (if received)

The Clerk reported that the baby swing seats are on order and will be installed when received.

Resolved. That the reports listed above be acknowledged with no comments received

19-20/58 To receive Councillors reports

Cllr C Alexander reported the following:

- The footpaths on the Woodland Trust Land are in need of attention
- The Handrail on the Bradshaws land is loose
- There is an unsecured gate that will need reporting
- Would like to suggest the Council discuss the village green security

Cllr S Pallent reported the following:

- That the grass cutting verges in Lucas Avenue are not being cut

Cllr R Gregory reported the following:

- Has been researching ideas of how to reduce the noise from traffic. Whilst this is difficult to facilitate there is evidence that by reducing speed by 6mph can deliver up to 40% noise reduction
- Has indicated that he will arrange a meeting with highways and Cllr G Branagh asked to also attend
- The Willow by the school needs to be trimmed as it is hanging over the 30mph flashing sign
- That in a communication recently sent out by the Clerk, it is recommended that Councils carry out risk assessments of the village trees and asked for this to be added to the September meeting agenda.

Cllr G Branagh has nothing to report

Cllr N Durlacher reported the following:

- There is a car that has been abandoned in Rams Farm Road. The Police have been informed but it is taxed and insured therefore there is nothing that can be done to clear.

19-20/59 To receive Clerks report

The Clerk reported the following items that have not already been discussed at the meeting:

- That the Japanese knotweed near the village halls is being dealt with
- A meeting with Fairfield's Farm is still pending
- The grass cutting contractors have been asked to pay particular attention to the BMX track edges
- That investigations are underway to find a suitable contractor that would be able to provide a maintenance report and renovation schedule for the BMX track

19-20/60 Items for next meeting on 10th September, 2019

The following items will be considered for the next Parish Council meeting in September

- Council vacancy
- Planning Committee
- Village Green Security
- Risk Assessment for Trees

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.27